

WASHINGTON STATE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

KNOW YOUR HOUSING RIGHTS

Chapter 49.60 RCW is a state law that protects all persons in Washington from certain unfair and discriminatory practices with respect to real estate transactions, facilities, or services.

The law covers nearly all housing transactions including the rental and sale of housing (homes, apartment buildings, and condominium developments) and the provision of mortgage loans.

WHO IS PROTECTED FROM DISCRIMINATION?

It is an unfair and unlawful practice for any person, whether acting for himself, herself, or another person, to discriminate in real estate when it is because of a person's:

- Race
- Creed
- Color
- National Origin
- Sex
- Marital Status
- Families with children status.
- The presence of any sensory, mental, or physical disability.
- The use of a trained dog guide or service animal by a person with a disability.
- The law also prohibits retaliation for opposing an unfair practice.

WHAT ARE PROHIBITED UNFAIR HOUSING PRACTICES?

Based on the above, it is unlawful for anyone directly or indirectly engaged in the sale or rental of real estate to discriminate:

- In sales, rentals, leases, listings, negotiations, or inspections.
- In terms, rates, privileges, conditions, or financing.
- In receiving and transmitting offers to purchase or rent.
- By representing that real property is not available for inspection, sale, or rental when in fact it is.



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HOW TO FILE A COMPLAINT

If you believe that you have been discriminated against, contact the nearest Commission office within 1 year of the alleged harmful act or event. An Intake Officer will review your situation and assist you in determining whether there is a basis for filing a complaint. Please inform the Commission if you need an accommodation due to a disability or limited English proficiency.

For more information visit our Web Site www.wa.gov/hrc

OLYMPIA HEADQUARTERS OFFICE

PHONE: (360) 753-6770 TOLL FREE: 1(800) 233-3247 TTY TOLL FREE: 1(800) 300-7525 Se Habla Español

SEATTLE DISTRICT OFFICE

PHONE: (206) 464-6500 TTY: (206) 587-5168

SPOKANE DISTRICT OFFICE

PHONE: (509) 456-4473

YAKIMA DISTRICT OFFICE

PHONE: (509) 575-2772 Se Habla Español

To obtain this publication in an alternative format, please contact the headquarters office in Olympia.